

## PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>Project Title</b>	White Sulphur Springs Ranch Hazardous Fuels Reduction Plan
<b>Brief Description</b>	<p><b>Project Location</b> The proposed project is located at the White Sulphur Springs Ranch, 2200 Highway 89, in Mohawk Valley, Clio, CA 96106.</p> <p><b>Project Summary</b> The MVSC is requesting Category Two funds for planning tasks required prior to implementation of a Hazardous Fuels Reduction (HFR) project, which will be designed to treat fuels and help preserve approximately 40 acres of mixed conifer forests at White Sulphur Springs Ranch (WSSR) and public lands located adjacent to WSSR. The anticipated high public use of WSSR for recreational purposes, coupled with its proximity to public and private wild lands and rural residential areas, results in a great need to reduce the risk and impacts of wildfire. The planning grant would allow the MVSC to reduce the risk and impacts of large, damaging fires and to help restore healthy forest ecosystems at WSSR.</p> <p><b>Environmental Setting</b> The WSSR lies at the headwaters of the Middle Fork Feather River watershed, within the Sulphur Creek subwatershed. The Feather River watershed is located in California's northern Sierra Nevada and encompasses a broad variety of terrain, climate, historic use, and flora and fauna. The Feather River watershed has long been recognized for its recreational, water and aesthetic values. An abundance of montane rivers, lakes and reservoirs dot the landscape, creating both summer and winter recreational opportunities. Water originating from these drainages represents a significant component of the State Water Project and provides high quality water for hydro generation, agriculture, industry and cities in the south. WSSR is located in the Middle Fork Feather River watershed on the edge of one of the Sierra Nevada's most beautiful high mountain meadows. In addition to WSSR's 38 acres of forested ecosystems, numerous water resources (seeps and springs, small tributaries, wetlands and riparian zones) provide unique habitats for aquatic and riparian</p>

	<p>dependent species, as well as serving as headwater sources to a major Sierra Nevada meadow system (Mohawk Valley), Sulphur Creek and downstream. Springs originating at WSSR help support local summer baseflows and thus influence aquatic habitat quality and quantity on site and downstream as well as species diversity. WSSR has historically been used as a community gathering place for weddings, family reunions, pic nics, school functions and public swimming in the warm springs pool. These uses will not change. The MVSC plans to restore the property to protect its natural resources while re-opening the property once again to provide recreational users and the local community a gathering place. WSSR has a warm-springs swimming pool that will be restored for public use, hiking trails that have been built in partnership with the Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship, a children's fishing pond and environmental resources that will be protected while allowing for recreation use of the property.</p> <p>The MVSC is requesting Category Two funds for planning tasks required prior to implementation of a Hazardous Fuels Reduction (HFR) project, which will be designed to treat fuels and help preserve approximately 40 acres of mixed conifer forests at White Sulphur Springs Ranch (WSSR) The planning grant would allow the MVSC to reduce the risk and impacts of large, damaging fires and to help restore ecosystem functions at the ranch.</p>
<b>Total Requested Amount</b>	20,000.00
<b>Other Fund Proposed</b>	2,500.00
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	22,500.00
<b>Project Category</b>	Planning
<b>Project Area/Size</b>	40
<b>Project Area Type</b>	Acres
<b>Have you submitted to SNC this fiscal year?</b>	No
<b>Is this application related to other SNC funding?</b>	No

<b>Project Results</b>
Plan

<b>Project Purpose</b>	<b>Project Purpose Percent</b>
Natural Disaster Risk Reduction (Fire)	
Water Quality	

<b>County</b>
Plumas

<b>Sub Region</b>
North Central

**PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION**

<b>Name</b>	Ms. Alice Berg,
<b>Title</b>	President MVSC
<b>Organization</b>	Mohawk Valley Stewardship council
<b>Primary Address</b>	PO Box 25, , , Clio, CA, 96126
<b>Primary Phone/Fax</b>	530-836-1201 <b>Ext.</b>
<b>Primary Email</b>	bergalice@yahoo.com

## PROJECT LOCATION INFORMATION

### Project Location

Address:	White Sulphur Springs Ranch, 2200 Highway 89, , Clio, CA, 96106
United States	
Water Agency:	Community Services District at Whitehawk
Latitude:	39.727653
Longitude:	-120.54920
Congressional District:	N/A
Senate:	N/A
Assembly:	N/A
Within City Limits:	No
City Name:	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grant Application Type

<b>Grant Application Type:</b> <b>Category Two Pre-Project Activities</b>
<b>Grant Application Type:</b> <b>Category Two Pre-Project Activities</b>

<b>PROJECT OTHER CONTACTS INFORMATION</b>
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<b>Other Grant Project Contacts</b>
Name: Ms. Alice Berg, Project Role: Day-to-Day Responsibility Phone: 5308361201 Phone Ext: E-mail: bergalice@yahoo.com

## UPLOADS

The following pages contain the following uploads provided by the applicant:

Upload Name
Completed Application Checklist
Table of Contents
Full Application Form
Authorization to Apply or Resolution
Narrative Descriptions
Detailed Budget Form
Regulatory Requirements or Permits
Letters of Support
Project Location Map
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Topographic Map
Photos of the Project Site
Land Tenure- Only for Site Improvement Projects



To preserve the integrity of the uploaded document, headers, footers and page numbers have not been added by the system.

## **Appendix B1**

### **Full Application Checklist**

Project Name: White Sulphur Springs Ranch Fuels Reduction Project Planning

Applicant: Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council

Please mark each box: check if item is included in the application; mark "N/A" if not applicable to the project. "N/A" identifications must be explained in the application. Please consult with SNC staff prior to submission if you have any questions about the applicability to your project of any items on the checklist. All applications must include a CD including an electronic file of each checklist item, if applicable. The naming convention for each electronic file is listed after each item on the checklist. (Electronic File Name = EFN: "naming convention". file extension choices)

Submission requirements for all Category One and Category Two Grant Applications

1. ☒ Completed Application Checklist (EFN: *Checklist.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
2. ☒ Table of Contents (EFN: *TOC.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
3. ☒ Full Application Project Information Form (EFN: *SIform.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
4. ☒ Authorization to Apply or Resolution (EFN: *authorization.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
5. ☒ Narrative Descriptions - Submit a single document that includes each of the following narrative descriptions (EFN: *Narrative.doc, .docx, .rtf*)
  - a. ☒ Detailed Project Description (5,000 character maximum)
    - ☒ Project Description including Goals/Results, Scope of Work, Location, Purpose, etc.
    - ☒ Project Summary
    - ☒ Environmental Setting
  - b. ☒ Workplan and Schedule (1,000 character maximum)
  - c. ☒ Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements(1,000 character maximum)
  - d. ☒ Organizational Capacity(1,000 character maximum)
  - e. ☒ Cooperation and Community Support (1,000 character maximum)
  - f. ☒ Long Term Management and Sustainability (1,000 character maximum)
  - g. ☒ Performance Measures (1,000 character maximum)
6. Supplemental and Supporting documents
  - a. ☒ Detailed Budget Form (EFN: *Budget.xls, .xlsx*)
  - b. Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements, as applicable
    - ☐ Restrictions / Agreements (EFN: *RestAgree.pdf*) N/A
    - ☒ Regulatory Requirements / Permits (EFN: *RegPermit.pdf*)

- ☐ California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation (EFN: CEQA.pdf) N/A
- ☐ National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation (EFN: NEPA.pdf) N/A
- c. Cooperation and Community Support
- ☒ Letters of Support (EFN: LOS.pdf)
- d. Long-Term Management and Sustainability
- ☐ Long-Term Management Plan (EFN: LTMP.pdf) N/A
- e. Maps and Photos
- ☒ Project Location Map (EFN: LocMap.pdf)
- ☒ Parcel Map showing County Assessor's Parcel Number(s) (EFN: ParcelMap.pdf)
- ☒ Topographic Map (EFN: Topo.pdf)
- ☒ Photos of the Project Site (10 maximum) (EFN: Photo.jpg, .gif)
- f. Additional submission requirements for Conservation Easement Acquisition applications only (N/A)
- ☐ Acquisition Schedule (EFN: acqSched.doc,.docx,.rtf,.pdf)
- ☐ Willing Seller Letter (EFN: WillSell.pdf)
- ☐ Real Estate Appraisal (EFN: Appraisal.pdf)
- ☐ Conservation Easement Language (EFN: CE.pdf)
- g. Additional submission requirements for Site Improvement / Restoration Project applications only (N/A)
- ☒ Land Tenure Documents – attach only if documentation was not included with Pre-application (EFN: Tenure.pdf)
- ☐ Site Plan (EFN: SitePlan.pdf)
- ☐ Leases or Agreements (EFN: LeaseAgmnt.pdf) N/A

I certify that the information contained in the Application, including required attachments, is accurate.

  
Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
(Authorized Representative)

January 19, 2012  
Date

Alice Berg, MVSC Executive Director  
Name and Title (print or type)

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## Appendix B2

### SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY PROPOSITION 84 - PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

Rev. August 2011

**PROJECT NAME** White Sulphur Springs Ranch Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project Plan

**APPLICANT NAME** *(Legal name, address, and zip code)*

**Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council**

**P.O. Box 25**

**Clio, CA 96106**

**PERSON WITH FISCAL MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR GRANT CONTRACT/INVOICING**

*Name and title – type or print*

*Phone*

*Email Address*

☐ Mr.

☐ Ms. Alice Berg, MVSC Executive Director 530-836-1201 bergalice@yahoo.com

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR PLANNING DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION** *(At least one entry is required)*

*Name:* Randy Wilson

*Phone Number:* 530-283-7011

*Email address:* randywilson@countyofplumas.com

*Name:*

*Phone Number:*

*Email address:*

**NEAREST PUBLIC WATER AGENCY (OR AGENCIES) CONTACT INFORMATION** *(At least one entry is required)*

*Name:* Community Services District at Whitehawk

*Phone Number:* 530-832-0733

*Email address:* <http://whitehawkranch.org>

*Name:* Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

*Phone Number:* 530-224-4845

*Email address:* info5@waterboards.ca.gov

**Please identify the appropriate project category below and provide the associated details** *(Choose One)*

☐ Category One Site Improvement

☒ Category Two Pre-Project Activities

☐ Category One Conservation Easement Acquisition

☐ **Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition**

Project area: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Acres: \_\_\_\_\_

SNC Portion (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Total Miles (i.e. river or stream bank): \_\_\_\_\_

SNC Portion (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

**Select one primary Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition deliverable**

☐ Restoration

☐ Enhancement

☐ Resource Protection

☐ Infrastructure Development / Improvement

☐ **Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition**

Project area: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Acres: \_\_\_\_\_

SNC Portion (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Total Miles (i.e. river or stream bank): \_\_\_\_\_

SNC Portion (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

**For Conservation Easement Acquisitions Only**

☐ Appraisal Included

☐ Will submit appraisal by \_\_\_\_\_

Select one primary Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition deliverable

☐ Restoration

☐ Enhancement

☐ Resource Protection

☐ Infrastructure Development / Improvement

☐ Conservation Easement



**SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY  
PROPOSITION 84 HEALTHY FORESTS GRANT PLAN**

In the matter of A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY PROPOSITION 84 HEALTHY FORESTS GRANTS PROGRAM FUNDED BY THE SAFE DRINKING WATER, WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY, FLOOD CONTROL, RIVER AND COAST PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2006 on November 7, 2006	Resolution No: <u>3</u> Date: <u>JANUARY 20, 2012</u>
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**Board of Directors Resolution No. 3**

The following RESOLUTION was duly passed by the Board of Directors of the MOHAWK VALLEY STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL at a regular meeting held on January 21, 2012 by the following vote:

Ayes: 6  
Noes: 0  
Abstentions: 0  
Absent: 1

Signed and approved by:



\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Board of Directors

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the state of California have provided Funds for the program shown above; and

WHEREAS, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of a portion of these funds through a local assistance grants program, establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by SNC require a resolution certifying the approval of application by the Applicant's governing board before submission of said application to the SNC; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the SNC to carry out the project; and

WHEREAS, the Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council has identified the White Sulphur Springs Ranch Fuels Reduction Project Planning as valuable toward its mission and goals.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council that this Board:

1. Approves the submittal of an application for the White Sulphur Springs Ranch Fuels Reduction Project Planning; and
2. Certifies that Applicant understands the assurances and certification requirements in the application; and
3. Certifies that the Applicant or title holder will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the resources consistent with the long-term benefits described in support of the application; or will secure the resources to do so; and
4. Certifies that Applicant will comply with all legal requirements as determined during the application process; and
5. Appoints the President of the Board of Directors, or designee, as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including but not limited to: applications, agreements, payment requests, and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council on January 21, 2012.



## **5. Narrative Description**

### **A. Detailed Project Description Narrative**

#### **Project Location**

The proposed project is located at the White Sulphur Springs Ranch, 2200 Highway 89, in Mohawk Valley, Clio, CA 96106.

#### **Project Summary**

The MVSC is requesting Category Two funds for planning tasks required prior to implementation of a Hazardous Fuels Reduction (HFR) project, which will be designed to treat fuels and help preserve approximately 40 acres of mixed conifer forests at White Sulphur Springs Ranch (WSSR) and public lands located adjacent to WSSR. The anticipated high public use of WSSR for recreational purposes, coupled with its proximity to public and private wild lands and rural residential areas, results in a great need to reduce the risk and impacts of wildfire. The planning grant would allow the MVSC to reduce the risk and impacts of large, damaging fires and to help restore healthy forest ecosystems at WSSR.

#### **Environmental Setting**

The WSSR lies at the headwaters of the Middle Fork Feather River watershed, within the Sulphur Creek subwatershed. The Feather River watershed is located in California's northern Sierra Nevada and encompasses a broad variety of terrain, climate, historic use, and flora and fauna. The Feather River watershed has long been recognized for its recreational, water and aesthetic values. An abundance of montane rivers, lakes and reservoirs dot the landscape, creating both summer and winter recreational opportunities. Water originating from these drainages represents a significant component of the State Water Project and provides high quality water for hydro generation, agriculture, industry and cities in the south.

WSSR is located in the Middle Fork Feather River watershed on the edge of one of the Sierra Nevada's most beautiful high mountain meadows. In addition to WSSR's 38 acres of forested ecosystems, numerous water resources (seeps and springs, small tributaries, wetlands and riparian zones) provide unique habitats for aquatic and riparian dependent species, as well as serving as headwater sources to a major Sierra Nevada meadow system (Mohawk Valley), Sulphur Creek and downstream. Springs originating at WSSR help support local summer baseflows and thus influence aquatic habitat quality and quantity on site and downstream as well as species diversity. WSSR has historically been used as a community gathering place for weddings, family reunions, pic nics, school functions and public swimming in the warm springs pool. These uses will not change. The MVSC plans to restore the property to protect its natural resources while re-opening the property once again to provide recreational users and the local community a gathering place. WSSR has a warm-springs swimming pool that will be restored for public use, hiking trails that have been built in partnership with the Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship, a children's fishing pond and environmental resources that will be protected while allowing for recreation use of the property.

## Background

The Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council (MVSC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established as a community-based partnership that encourages long-term cooperative endeavors to sustain, protect and improve cultural, historic and natural resources while contributing to community sustainability.

The MVSC acquired the White Sulphur Springs Ranch (WSSR) with grant funds and a significant donation from the landowner in October 2010. As a result of the acquisition, this historic community gathering place was saved from commercial development in perpetuity for the benefit of the public. The ranch consists of approximately 40 acres of mostly forested landscape with a few acres of mountain meadows on the edge of beautiful Mohawk Valley. Intended uses of the property will be consistent with historic recreational uses including for swimming, community gatherings, weddings, music events and hiking.

## Project Purpose and Need

The MVSC is requesting Category Two funds for planning required to implement Phase I of a Hazardous Fuel Reduction (HFR) project on the 40-acre WSSR.

Wildland fire is an ever present and destructive force in Plumas County which continues to threaten forest, watersheds and communities: from 1995 to 2005, the Plumas NF experienced 2,347 fires and 120,209 acres were burned; in 2007 over 100 fires and more than 87,000 acres burned in Plumas County; in 2008, over 95 fires and more than 46,000 acres burned. Factors that influence wildland fire behavior are: *Fuel*, *Weather*, and *Topography*. Historically, fires thinned and cleaned our forests. With the advent of fire suppression, forests became over-stocked and susceptible to severe effects from wildfire. Fuel is the sole element of the fire behavior triangle which humans can manage. Fuels treatments can be designed to mimic the effects of wildfire to help improve forest health and to reduce the severity of effects from wildfire. Without treatment, fuel loads continue to increase and can adversely affect forested ecosystems. WSSR has had no fuels treatment or thinning since the property was logged around the turn of the century. In August 2011, there was a lightning-caused fire near a ridgetop behind WSSR that was extinguished by the PNF. The rate of spread was minimized by rain that followed the lightning storm.

Fire intensity is measured in terms of flame lengths: flame lengths < 4 feet indicate fires able to be controlled by hand crews and engines; flame lengths of 4-8 feet require heavy equipment and air support and fires have active crowning and spotting from torching trees; flame lengths > 8 feet often require indirect attack and fires produce large scale crowning and fire development with long range spotting, which threatens adjacent lands and watersheds. There is a strong correlation between flame lengths and post fire damage as well. Flame lengths associated with catastrophic stand replacing fire create the most damage to soils, watersheds and water resources. WSSR has numerous cold and hot springs as well as drainages and historical resources. The purpose of the proposed HFR planning project is to acquire the planning services needed to implement a project that would reduce future flame lengths to less than 4 feet on treated acres to protect the natural, historical and cultural resources at WSSR as well as adjacent public and

private lands. Reductions in flame length and firebrands make for safer and easier fire suppression if a fire were to occur. Successful fuel management to reduce fire intensity, extent, and consequently damage requires efforts be spent on decreasing the volume and increasing the separation of forest fuel available to burn. The high amount of public use anticipated at WSSR further justifies the need to minimize the potential for catastrophic fire.

There is a substantial amount of research on the effectiveness of treating forest fuels to modify fire behavior. Large fires in Plumas County frequently demonstrate severe catastrophic stand replacing and soil/watershed altering behavior. Fires have denuded watersheds, altered soil properties and structure, and have had a significant impact on watersheds. The loss of vegetation on slopes has a direct effect on watershed processes and water resources including sedimentation rates, water quantity/quality, snowmelt, water runoff, wildlife and fisheries.

WSSR backs to Plumas NF lands that have had some recent fuels treatments (hand work and piling). This project would complement this work as well as projects completed near-by on private lands by the Plumas County Fire Safe Council (near Whitehawk). The combined properties would help create a contiguous healthy forest with reduced fire risk. MVSC's efforts to reduce fire occurrence and intensity would have a direct effect on public lands and the community of Mohawk Valley. By improving forest conditions at WSSR, the public can continue to enjoy this property as a recreation and cultural center with reduced risk of catastrophic fire.

#### Proposition 85 Healthy Forests Land and Water Benefits

The proposed plan will lead to sound implementation of fuels treatment on WSSR. Fuels treatment at WSSR will add cumulatively to other fuels treatment projects that have been completed in the vicinity including near Whitehawk (implemented by the Plumas County Fire Safe Council) and behind WSSR on US Forest Service lands. The plan and implementation of fuels treatments will result in a more continuous desired fuels profile that will reduce the threat of wildfires. Treating fuels at WSSR is particularly important because, once restoration is complete; WSSR will be the primary access point for the community and tourists to public lands that surround Mohawk Valley. Thus, the potential for fire starts at WSSR is higher than in the surrounding area.

WSSR is located in the Sulphur Creek watershed. Sulphur Creek is a Class I perennial stream that is tributary to the Middle Fork Feather River. WSSR has numerous seeps and springs that contribute to Sulphur Creek baseflows year-round, and downstream to the Middle Fork Feather River, and ultimately into Lake Oroville, a key component of the California State Water Project. The Feather River is one of the largest rivers flowing out of the Sierra Nevada mountain range, producing 4.617 million acre feet annually of unimpaired flow. It provides approximately 22 % of the water supply from the Sierras. Plumas County is home to all three forks of the Feather River, each unique and diverse in its nature and use, which flow into Lake Oroville. These rivers are part of the Department of Water Resource's California Water Project, PG&E's hydroelectric system, provide domestic water to both in and out of County residents, are critical to maintaining a variety of State fisheries and include a designated Wild and Scenic river Cal-Fire's FRAP watershed maps defined the various ranking criteria within Plumas County for high and

moderate asset ranks. All the communities in the County are either high or moderate asset ranks. However, the primary assets at risk in Plumas County are to other residents of the state outside of Plumas. For example, the State Water Project serves more than 20 million citizens. The Feather River is the only significant source of water in the State Water Project. Both Lake Oroville and the California Aqueduct were built after the voters approved this devotion of the Feather River to broader state purposes. Protecting this asset is a state priority. Similarly, the Feather provides the largest hydroelectric facilities in the Sierra (see Stewart in SNEP). Lake Oroville, the repository of Feather River water, is the largest reservoir in the Sierra. Any diminution of water quality through excess erosion caused by wildfire or excessive flooding from burnt-over forests has direct economic impacts in California. The Middle Fork (a federal Wild and Scenic river), the North Fork (with Highway 70, a federal Scenic Byway) as well as Lake Almanor (1 million AF) and another 100 lakes are also surrogate water storage areas as well as first class recreational assets, subject to degradation through wildfires.

Large fires in Plumas County frequently demonstrate severe and catastrophic stand-replacing and soil-altering behavior. Large stand-replacing fires denude the forest of vegetation, alter soil properties and soils structure enhancing organics, and have a significant impact on watersheds. Fires in Plumas County often become catastrophic, significantly impacting watershed resources by effectively stripping the soil of its protective vegetative cover, sub-surface root structure, organic material, biological life, and soil structure. The loss of vegetation in Plumas County watersheds has a direct effect on biological life, soil structure, erosion, sedimentation, water quantity, quality, snowmelt and water runoff timing, impacts impoundment facilities, and has a negative effect on humans, wildlife and fisheries. Hazardous fuel reduction in Plumas County watersheds can create direct positive effect on the water runoff, erosion, sedimentation, impoundment capacity, vegetation and soil, following a wildfire; while protecting humans, wildlife and fisheries.

The proposed plan and implementation of fuels treatments would protect water, soil and vegetation resources at WSSR and in the surrounding Sulphur Creek watershed, which will have cumulative benefits to the Feather River watershed consistent with Proposition 84 Land and Water Benefits requirements and the goals of protection and restoration.

#### SNC Program Goals

The plan and implementation of fuels treatments would meet the following SNC Program Goals (details given above):

- Reduce the risk of natural disasters, such as wildfires.

This project will have a direct effect on reducing the potential for a large fire to occur within the project area as the expected fire behavior will be less intense and generate less embers from torching trees, thereby reducing potential fire size and suppression difficulty.

- Protect and improve water and air quality.

This project will add to fuels treatment work the Plumas NF has completed behind WSSR and work that the Plumas Fire Safe Council has completed near Whitehawk to create a more contiguous landbase to change expected fire behavior from fires that may remove the entire forest canopy to conditions where mostly surface fuels burn, reducing stand damage and spotting

potential, reducing intensities at which fires burn, which has a direct connection to water & air quality.

- Assist the regional economy through the operation of the SNC's program.

The proposed plan will employ several contractors including an RPF and resource specialists required for surveys. Implementation of fuels reduction projects can help sustain industries within our community.

#### Phase II: Future Project Implementation (Future Activities and Outcomes)

The proposed planning grant is considered Phase I of a larger project: if this proposal is funded, planning work would directly lead to implementation of fuels reduction at WSSR.

Fuels reduction at WSSR would proceed in a manner that protects sensitive resources on the property including springs, seeps and riparian areas. Due to the topographical features of the parcel (such as ephemeral drainages and the railroad grade), fuels reduction will be accomplished via two methods: biomass removal and hand treatment.

Biomass removal involves the use of equipment, and targets suppressed and intermediate trees for removal. The trees which are removed would be removed in log form or processed through a chipper, with all products being transported to SPI in Quincy. The largest tree that can legally be removed in such process is 24" diameter outside bark at stump height. Harvested trees that are not large enough to make lumber would be processed as chips and used at the biomass energy plant at SPI Quincy.

Sensitive areas including drainages, the area surrounding the pond and warm springs, or any other sensitive area would be treated with hand thinning, piling, and burning methods. Alternately, if the slopes are not too steep, some of these areas may be treated through hand thinning and feeding the material through a small chipper and broadcasting the material onto the ground.

#### Estimated acreage and costs for Phase II (implementation of fuels treatment):

- WSSR consists of 40 acres total with 2.5 acres being excluded (meadows, springs, etc.)
- Total acres of treatment would be 37.5 net acres
- Biomass Removal would occur on 20 acres @ \$2,000.00 per acre = \$40,000
- Hand Thin/Pile/Burn would occur on 17.5 acres @ \$1,000 per acre = \$17,500

#### Revenue from Phase II

The project may produce revenue from thinning and chips. A conservative estimate of the value of each would be \$3,500 from thinning and \$2,625 from chips. These values could be combined and used as "Match" in future grant applications for implementation. Utilization of woods-produced chips is a benefit to our local economy. All revenues would be returned to the WSSR for land stewardship purposes.

#### Summary of Project Purpose and Goals (Phase I Planning)

Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council  
White Sulphur Springs Ranch Fuels Reduction Project Plan  
January 20, 2012

- The purpose and goal of the proposed HFR planning project is to acquire the planning services needed to implement a fuels reduction project that, in the event of a wildfire, would reduce future flame lengths to less than 4 feet on the 40-acre WSSR.
- The proposed plan would facilitate implementation of a fuels reduction project that would protect the WSSR for public use, as well as adjacent public and private lands.
- The high amount of public use anticipated at WSSR (intended uses include swimming, pic-nics, weddings, reunions, music events, mountain biking and hiking) coupled with high existing fuel loading further results in a need to minimize the potential for catastrophic fire.

Project Scope of Work (Phase I Planning)

MVSC's planning grant proposal will fund the following tasks:

Task 1. Grant Administration to include the following tasks/deliverables:

- Contracting;
- Fiscal and grant management;
- Monitoring of performance measures; and
- Project reporting.

Cost \$2,500

Task 2. MVSC will hire qualified resource professionals including a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) to develop the following deliverables:

- Treatment prescriptions;
- Designation of trees or vegetation to be removed;
- Assessment of the value of forest products;
- Preparation of appropriate CEQA and timber harvesting permits if necessary;
- Development of a HFR solicitation prospectus;
- Filing of a Forest Fire Prevention Exemption;
- Administration of all active fuel reduction operations; and
- Conducting all required surveys (floristic, wildlife, archaeology).

Cost \$13,500

Task 3. Monitoring to include the following tasks/deliverables:

- Establishment of monitoring plots to collect information on stand conditions expected fire behavior and photos;
- Collection of quantifiable pre-assessment information for preparing treatment funding requests.

Cost \$1,750

Task 4. Outreach, community coordination and education, and Council capacity to seek treatment implementation funding including the following tasks/deliverables:

- Two public outreach meetings on site to discuss forest health, fire risk and benefits and project goals;
- Development of proposal to seek treatment implementation funding

- Development of outreach materials on forest health and fire risk and benefits to include in MVSC's environmental education program for school children.

Cost \$2,250

Total Budget (Phase I Planning): \$20, 000

Summary of Phase I Outcomes

- Treatment prescriptions
- Tree designation
- HFR solicitation
- Forest Fire Exemption permit/CEQA Compliance
- Administration
- Monitoring plots established
- Collection of pre-treatment site data
- Community outreach and education
- Capacity to seek treatment implementation funds

All funds will be provided by the proposed grant. Volunteers will be available to assist the RPF with any field work, as needed.

## **B. Work plan and Schedule Narrative**

The proposed project would provide planning services required for implementation of a fuels reduction project on approximately 40 acres of lands at WSSR. Major tasks, milestones and deliverables include the following:

**Task 1. Grant Administration.** This will include the following tasks/deliverables: contracting; fiscal and grant management; monitoring of performance measures; and project reporting. Cost \$2,500. Timeline: Grant award ( 60 days after SNC Board authorization through grant close out - approximately two years). Milestones: Progress Reports submitted to SNC at six-month intervals over a two year period and Final Report at end of second year.

**Task 2. Contract with Resource Professionals.** MVSC will hire qualified resource professionals including a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) to develop the following deliverables: treatment prescriptions; designation of trees or vegetation to be removed; assessment of the value of forest products; preparation of appropriate CEQA and timber harvesting permits, if necessary; development of a HFR solicitation prospectus; filing of a Forest Fire Prevention Exemption/CEQA compliance; administration of all active fuel reduction operations; and conducting all required surveys (floristic, wildlife, archaeology). Cost \$13,500. Timeline: September 2012-2013. Milestones: Permits, filings, survey reports.

**Task 3. Monitoring.** This will include the following tasks/deliverables: establishment of monitoring plots to collect information on stand conditions expected fire behavior and

photos; collection of quantifiable pre-assessment information for preparing treatment funding requests. Cost \$1,750. Timeline: June 2012-September 2013 (during summer field seasons). Milestones: Monitoring plots located and flagged, pre-implementation plot data compiled and included in progress and final reports.

**Task 4. Outreach, community coordination and education, and Council capacity to seek treatment implementation funding.** This will include the following tasks/deliverables: two public outreach meetings on site to discuss forest health, fire risk and benefits and project goals; development of outreach materials on forest health and fire risk and benefits to include in MVSC's environmental education program for school children; development of proposal to seek treatment implementation funding. Cost \$2,250. Timeline: June 2013-September 2014. Milestones: Forest health and fire environmental education packets produced, outreach conducted on site during special events, treatment implementation grant proposal complete.

**Total Budget (Phase I Planning): \$20, 000**

#### **Phase I Outcomes**

- Treatment prescriptions
- Tree designation
- HFR solicitation
- Forest Fire Exemption permit
- Administration
- Monitoring plots established
- Collection of pre-treatment site data
- Community outreach and education

**Table 1. SNC PROJECT DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE**

<b>DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
Grant Administration	September 2012-December 2014
6-month Progress Reports and Final Report	March 2013-September 2014
Resource Professional Services	September 2012-September 2013
Monitoring	June 2012-September 2013
Public Outreach	June 2013-December 2014
Project Completion	December 2014



**Table 2. SNC PROJECT COSTS**

<b>PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES</b>	<b>TOTAL SNC FUNDING</b>
Grant Administration	\$2,500
Resource Professional Services	\$13,500
Monitoring	\$1,750
Public Outreach and Capacity for Treatment Proposal	\$2,250
<b>SNC GRANT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>

### **C. Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements**

#### Restrictions/Agreements

There are no restrictions or agreements that could adversely impact the project completion.

#### Regulatory Requirements/Permits

The following permits and regulatory requirements are required:

##### 1) Forest Fire Prevention Exemption/CEQA Compliance

This exemption is appropriate for this fuels reduction project and is required to eliminate the vertical continuity of vegetative fuels and the horizontal continuity of tree crowns, for the purpose of reducing the rate of fire spread, duration and intensity, fuel ignitability, or ignition of tree crowns. This exemption is required only if the wood is sold, bartered, exchanged, or traded. This exemption will be prepared by a Registered Professional Forester and a Licensed Timber Operator will be identified on the exemption and is responsible for all logging activities. The exemption would obviate the need for a Timber Harvest Plan, which is CAL FIRE's CEQA equivalent. A copy of the document to be completed is attached at 6.b.

Other surveys will be conducted as follows:

##### 2) Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDB) Search

We will conduct a search of the NDDB and submit a copy of the search results along with any required Environmental Checklist to CAL FIRE. If the NDDB search identifies any threatened or endangered species of animals or plants that may be present surveys will be conducted and we will describe avoidance measures. The property has been previously surveyed by Caltrans for the Highway 89 widening project and no occurrences were identified.

##### 3) Conduct an archeological records check.

Submit a copy of the results along with this Environmental Checklist. If the Records Check Identifies cultural resources within the project site we will be required to describe measures to avoid impacts. An archaeological survey will be conducted as well and a copy of the survey results will be submitted to CAL FIRE along with an Environmental Checklist. If the archeological survey identifies cultural resources within the project site we will describe measures to avoid impacts in the appropriate discussion section. Cultural Resources findings will be submitted to State Historic Preservation Officer (National Historic Preservation Act. Section 106).

**Table 3. Summary of Permits Required for a Forest Fire Prevention Exemption Project.**

Permitting Agency	Permit
State of California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)	Forest Fire Prevention Exemption/CEQA compliance

#### **D. Organizational Capacity**

The MVSC is a nonprofit public benefit corporation established in 2008. Our mission is to protect, conserve and restore the physical, cultural, archeological, and historical resources of the Mohawk Valley. The proposed project is consistent with our mission and would help further our mission.

In our brief history as a nonprofit, we have accomplished the following major milestones:

- Established a successful nonprofit corporation and recruited a professional cadre of six directors and an executive director;
- Established a successful annual fundraiser that provides operating funds for all aspects of the nonprofit and White Sulphur Springs Ranch;
- Obtained over \$1.5 million in grant funds and have effectively managed grant funds to achieve goals;
- Received over \$520,000 in private donations;
- Negotiated a successful acquisition of the White Sulphur Springs Ranch;
- Established a membership program that includes over 200 community members;
- Established a volunteer program that includes over 50 active local volunteers;
- Conducted outreach to local elected officials and homeowners associations to build support for all aspects of the White Sulphur Springs Ranch project.

The MVSC has the following programs ongoing and open active grants:

- Planning and restoration of warm springs swimming pool and bath house (2012) in partnership with Plumas County Public Works Department;
- Restoration of children's fishing pond (2012) using volunteers;
- Caltrans Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program construction grant for restoration of pool and bath house (\$350,000) administered by Plumas County;
- Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control River and Coastal Protection Act of 2008 Proposition 84 (\$75,000) administered by MVSC.

The MVSC consists of an all-volunteer board and organization. MVSC's Executive Director (Alice Berg) may receive compensation for grant administration duties in the future, as allowed. The project will not require the hiring of new staff as all personnel required will be contracted (*local consultants*).

The MVSC has legal standing to apply for and execute a grant and is incorporated to do business in the State of California (Federal Tax ID# 26-3910738).

Please refer to MVSC's web site for information about our board of directors:

<http://www.mohawkvalley.us/about.htm>

In summary, the MVSC is a working board with a diverse array of skills and experience:

- Bill Tantau, President – local retired airline pilot;
- Susan Pettinato, Treasurer – nonprofit volunteer coordinator;
- John Barker, Secretary – local lodge and restaurant owner and building contractor;
- Sally Tantau, Director – fund raising and design consultant;
- Ginny Liljefelt, Director – corporate human resources consultant;
- Marnie Malpass, Director – attorney;
- Alice Berg, Executive Director – biologist.

Key volunteers for the WSSR project include volunteer landscape architects, general contractors, LEED Accredited Professional project manager, fisheries biologist, wildlife biologist, hydrologists, geochemists, artists, structural engineers and others.

#### **E. Cooperation and Community Support**

The local and regional community has and will be involved in planning for the WSSR project through on site visioning workshops, annual fundraising events and board presentations to civic groups and government bodies. Outreach has included citizens of diverse communities including Graeagle, Clio, Quincy, Loyalton, Calpine, Portola, Truckee and Reno as well as all homeowner's associations in the Mohawk Valley and Gold Mountain areas. The warm springs pool upgrades are being designed with community input and the pool itself will be maintained and operated by the Graeagle Master Swimmer's Team.

In 2009, 2010 and 2011 the MVSC held a fundraiser for the project and attendance exceeded expectations. The community voiced their support by attending our fundraisers and provided funds to do immediate emergency repairs to the property and buildings to prevent further weather damage. All work for the emergency repairs, including licensed general contractors, roofers, landscapers, work crews and local building supply stores were all volunteer participants. Numerous professionals have stepped forward to volunteer as well including landscape architect, architects (2), general contractors, LEED Accredited Professional project managers, fisheries biologists, wildlife biologists, hydrologists, geochemists, Feather River Land Trust staff, and agency representatives (refer to Table 2).

The MVSC has built partnerships with the following organizations in support of the WSSR project:

- Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- Plumas Fire Safe Council
- Sierra County Fire Safe and Watershed Council
- Trout Unlimited
- Feather River Land Trust
- Caltrans
- Plumas National Forest
- Plumas County Museum
- Homeowners Associations (White Hawk, Valley Ranch, Mohawk Meadows, Gold Mountain)

- Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship
- Portola Rotary Club
- Plumas County Board of Supervisors
- Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District
- Feather River Coordinated Resource Management Group
- Plumas Corporation
- Beta Sigma Phi Sorority
- Grizzly Boys Ranch
- Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative
- Teachers at Portola elementary and high schools
- Numerous private individuals that have pledged in-kind support for the project.
- MVSC Membership
- Feather River College

#### **F. Long-Term Management and Sustainability**

The project will be sustained through landowner maintenance. The MVSC owns WSSR, has no debt and has obtained a property tax exemption for WSSR. The MVSC pursued the tax exemption because we have put forth a great effort to turn around a blighted property in our community, saved it from development and will restore it for the benefit and use of the community and tourists. Our current expenses are very low and all restoration (pool, bath house, buildings, landscaping) will occur through grant funding and volunteer efforts. The MVSC is in the process of developing a business and management plan for the property including short- and long-term operations. The plan will detail our continued balanced and conservative approach to expenses (maintenance and insurance), income (special events such as weddings, fees for pool use and fundraisers) and protection of environmental resources. Uses of the property will be consistent with historic uses including swimming, pic nics, hiking, mountain biking, fishing and family and community events.

#### **G. Performance Measures**

The following performance measures will be implemented by the resource professionals identified in the scope of work, which also lists associated costs:

##### **1. Number and Type of Jobs Created**

This project is estimated to create about 2 FTE's for resource professionals to conduct the necessary outreach, obtain agreements, develop treatment prescriptions, prepare the Forest Fire Prevention Exemption/CEQA, conduct surveys and complete grant reporting. Implementation of Phase II may generate about 2.9 FTE's from forest products, depending on the amount of forest products which can be recovered from the final project.

##### **2. Number of Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments**

This project is expected to create the following:

- A Forest Fire Prevention Exemption Plan developed by resource professionals in collaboration with Plumas County Fire Safe Council, MVSC volunteers, adjacent landowners including the US Forest Service, Cal Fire or other resource management agencies, as appropriate;

Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council  
White Sulphur Springs Ranch Fuels Reduction Project Plan  
January 20, 2012

- Approvals by CAL FIRE;
- A Hazardous Fuel Reduction Prospectus identifying treatment methods and standards for implementation. This prospectus will be used in soliciting HFR contractors in the future;
- Establishment of pre-treatment monitoring plots and the collection of pertinent stand information such as tree stocking levels, surface fuel loadings, expected fire behavior and photos.

**3. Percent of Pre-project and Planning Efforts Resulting in Project Implementation**

Completion of this project will then allow MVSC to seek additional funding for on the ground implementation of the needed Hazardous Fuel Reduction work at WSSR. One hundred percent of the proposed planning funds/effort will result in project implementation.

## Appendix B3

### SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY PROPOSITION 84 - DETAILED BUDGET FORM

Project Name: White Sulphur Springs Ranch Fuels Reduction Project Planning

Applicant: Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council \_\_\_\_\_

SECTION ONE DIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
Registered Professional Forester (RPF)	\$6,750.00	\$6,750.00				\$13,500.00
<b>DIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:</b>	\$6,750.00	\$6,750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,500.00

SECTION TWO INDIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
Establishment of monitoring plots to determine forest health	\$875.00	\$875.00				\$1,750.00
Outreach, community coordination, and education	\$500.00	\$1,500.00				\$2,000.00
Publications and printing	\$250.00					\$250.00
						\$0.00
<b>INDIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:</b>	\$1,375.00	\$2,375.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
<b>PROJECT TOTAL:</b>	\$8,125.00	\$9,125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$17,500.00

SECTION THREE Administrative Costs (Costs may not to exceed 15% of total Project Cost) :						Total
Contracting, fiscal and grant management	\$833.00	\$833.00	\$833.00			\$2,500.00
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE TOTAL:</b>	\$833.00	\$833.00	\$833.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
<b>SNC TOTAL GRANT REQUEST:</b>	\$8,958.00	\$9,958.00	\$833.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00

SECTION FOUR OTHER PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
Volunteers to assist RPF and other resource professionals as needed						2,500
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
<b>Total Other Contributions:</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00

**NOTE:** The categories listed on this form are examples and may or may not be an expense related to the project. Rows may be added or deleted on the form as needed. Applicants should contact the SNC if questions arise.

\* Operating Costs should be allocated to the percentage that is applicable to the grant based on your cost allocation methodology and cannot exceed 15% of your total project costs.

# FOREST FIRE PREVENTION EXEMPTION

FOR ADMIN. USE ONLY

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION  
NOTICE OF TIMBER OPERATIONS THAT ARE EXEMPT FROM  
TIMBER HARVESTING PLAN REQUIREMENTS  
RM-73(1038i) (1/8/05)

Ex. #

Date of Receipt

Date Accepted by CDF

Date Timber Operation complete

**TIMBER OPERATIONS MUST BE CONDUCTED WITHIN 12 MONTHS FROM DATE OF RECEIPT BY CDF. OPERATIONS MAY NOT COMMENCE FOR FIVE WORKING DAYS FROM DATE OF RECEIPT BY CDF.**

The Director of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection is hereby notified of timber operations under the requirements of 14 CCR 1038(i) to cut or remove trees in compliance with Public Resources Code Sections 4584(k).

1. TIMBER OWNER(S) OF RECORD: Name

Address

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**TIMBER TAX EXEMPTION:** Timber owners owe timber yield tax when they harvest trees unless the harvest is exempt (Revenue and Taxation Code sec. 38116). Some small or low value harvests may be exempt from timber yield tax: timber removed from an operation whose value does not exceed \$3,000 within a quarter, according to BOE Harvest Value Schedules, Rule 1024. If you believe your harvest may qualify for this exemption, please complete items A and B below. **For timber yield tax information or for further assistance with these questions call 1-800-400-7115, or write: Timber Tax Section, MIC: 60, State Board of Equalization, P.O. Box 942879, Sacramento, California 94279-0060; or contact the BOE Web Page on the Internet at <http://www.boe.ca.gov>.**

A. Circle the option that most closely estimates the total volume for this harvest, in thousands of board feet (mbf - Net Scribner short log):

Under 8 mbf      8-15 mbf      16-25 mbf      Over 25 mbf

B. Estimate what percentage of timber to be removed during this harvest will be: Redwood \_\_\_\_\_%; Ponderosa pine/Sugar pine \_\_\_\_\_%;

Douglas-fir \_\_\_\_\_%; Fir \_\_\_\_\_%; Port-Orford Cedar \_\_\_\_\_%; Cedar (IC, WRC) \_\_\_\_\_%; Other, conifer \_\_\_\_\_%; Other, hardwood \_\_\_\_\_%.

2. TIMBERLAND OWNER(S) OF RECORD: Name

Address

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*I certify, under penalty of perjury, that I have read and understand the information on the reverse of this form and that I am the timberland owner of record.*

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

3. LICENSED TIMBER OPERATOR(S): Name \_\_\_\_\_ Lic. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

4. Designate the legal land description of the location of the timber operation. Attach a map showing the location of the timber operation. Map shall be a 7 1/2 minute quadrangle or equivalent.

Section(s)	Township	Range	Base & Meridian	County	Logging Area Acreage (Estimated)	Assessors Parcel # (Optional)
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**The following are limitations or requirements for timber operations conducted under the Forest Fire Prevention Exemption (Notice, Notice of Exemption, Exemption Notice, Exemption).**

1. Timber operations may not commence until five days after the date of receipt of this notice by the appropriate CDF office as listed below.
2. 14 CCR 1038(b)(1-10) places certain limits on the harvesting of trees under this exemption. These limits need to be examined to assure compliance.
3. Harvesting under this Notice of Exemption is limited to those trees that eliminate the vertical continuity of vegetative fuels and the horizontal continuity of tree crowns, for the purpose of reducing the rate of fire spread, duration and intensity, fuel ignitability, or ignition of tree crowns.
4. The logging area shall not exceed 300 acres in size.
5. Timber operations conducted under this notice shall comply with all operational provisions of the Forest Practice Act and District Forest Practice Rules applicable to "Timber Harvesting Plan", "THP", and "plan". There are special requirements for timber operations conducted in Coastal Commission Special Treatment Areas, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency area, and in counties with special rules adopted by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. These rules should be reviewed prior to submitting this notice to CDF.
6. Surface fuels in the harvest area, including logging slash and debris, low brush, and deadwood, that could promote the spread of wildfire, shall be treated to achieve the goal of an average of four foot maximum flame height under average severe fire weather conditions. Treatments shall include chipping, removing, piling, burning or other methods necessary to achieve the goal. Treatments, except for burning operations, shall be done within 120 days from the start of timber operations. Burning operations shall be completed by April 1 of the year following surface fuel creation. Treatment of surface fuels by burning shall be exempt from the one year time limitations described under 14 CCR § 1038.1
7. A timber operator with a valid State License must be designated upon submission of this notice.

**The following suggestion may help ensure your compliance with the Forest Practice Rules:**

Timber owners, timberland owners and timber operators should obtain and review copies of the Forest Practice Rules pertaining to the Notice of Exemption. Copies may be obtained from BARCLAYS LAW PUBLISHERS, P.O. BOX 3066, SO. SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94080. or from CDF, Forest Practice Section, P.O. BOX 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460; or from CDF's Web Page on the Internet at <http://www.fire.ca.gov>.

**FILE THIS NOTICE WITH THE NEAREST CDF OFFICE BELOW FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE OPERATION WILL OCCUR:**

Humboldt, Del Norte, Mendocino, Sonoma, Marin, Lake, Napa, Colusa, Solano, Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, Contra Costa, and western Trinity Counties.	=> 135 Ridgway Avenue => Santa Rosa, CA 95401
Siskiyou, Modoc, Shasta, eastern Trinity, Lassen, Tehama, Glenn, Butte, Sutter, Plumas, Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, and Placer Counties.	=> 6105 Airport Road => Redding, CA 96002
El Dorado, Amador, Alpine, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mariposa, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kern, Stanislaus, San Benito, Monterey, King, San Joaquin and Sacramento Counties.	=> 1234 East Shaw Avenue => Fresno, CA 93710
Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernadino, Orange, Riverside, Inyo, Mono, San Diego and Imperial Counties.	=> 2524 Mulberry Street => Riverside, CA 92501

**CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE:** Must be completed Registered Professional Forester preparing Notice of Exemption.

RPF Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Lic. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

RPF Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

---

TERRY SWOFFORD, DISTRICT 1  
ROBERT A. MEACHER, DISTRICT 2  
SHARON THRALL, DISTRICT 3  
LORI SIMPSON, DISTRICT 4  
OLE OLSEN, DISTRICT 5



January 13, 2009

Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
Jim Branham, Executive Officer  
11521 Blocker Dr., Suite 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Mr. Branham:

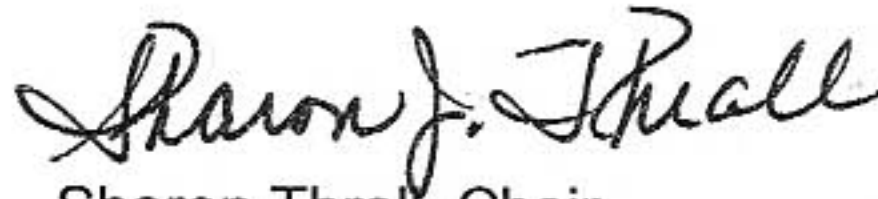
The Plumas County Board of Supervisors is submitting this letter of support for the grant applications (SOG 1 application submitted in February 27, 2009 and Competitive Grant application to be submitted in September 15, 2009) to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy for the White Sulphur Springs Ranch project by the Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council (MVSC).

The MVSC is a 501(c)(3) non profit corporation committed to protecting, conserving and restoring the physical, cultural, archeological, and historical resources in the Mohawk Valley ecoregion. Restoring and overseeing the long-term operation of the White Sulphur Springs Ranch as a cultural and environmental hub for our region of the Sierra Nevada will provide increased opportunities for tourism, recreation and public education. This endeavor will help protect, conserve and restore the physical, cultural, archeological, and historical resources on White Sulphur Springs Ranch and will assist the regional economy by providing a destination for tourists and local residents. The main structure on the Ranch, the White Sulphur Springs Hotel, is one of the few structures recognized as a protected historic and cultural asset in our County General Plan. While it is specifically protected from unnoticed demolition without a CEQA process, this County currently has no financial means to neither prevent its continued decay nor cause its needed restoration. In addition, the MVSC will enhance public use, enjoyment and awareness of the area's natural and cultural history through acquisition, restoration and operation of the White Sulphur Springs Ranch.

The White Sulphur Springs Ranch is an important asset to our County and has unique natural and cultural resources including warm and cold springs, riparian and wetland habitats, forested watersheds, and Maidu cultural sites. In addition, this property is located in the headwaters of Sulphur Creek, near several stream restoration sites, and within the headwaters of the Middle Fork Feather River. This acquisition will add to past and ongoing restoration actions aimed at improving the functions of headwater source areas, while also restoring access to water and natural resources enjoyed historically by the public. Our community has historically utilized White Sulphur Springs Ranch for a variety of cultural events. Acquisition of the Ranch would allow this important venue to be restored and available for our community to enjoy once again.

Please consider this letter of support along with the grant application submitted by the MVSC to put the White Sulphur Springs Ranch back on the map in permanent recognition of its historic significance to the Mohawk Valley and to Plumas County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sharon J. Thrall".

Sharon Thrall, Chair  
Plumas County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council  
P.O. Box 25  
Clio, CA 96106-0025





500 Jackson Street • Quincy, California 95971 • (530) 283-6320

Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council  
Alice Berg, President  
PO Box 25  
Clio, CA 96106

February 17, 2009

The Plumas County Museum Association, Inc. is pleased to offer our support in the Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council's (MVSC) mission to "...conserve and restore the region's physical, cultural, archeological, historical and living resources..." especially your current goal of restoring the historic White Sulphur Springs Ranch property.

As you may know, the Plumas County Museum was instrumental in bringing to public awareness the mismanagement and deplorable condition this venerable landmark was being subjected to. We are truly grateful for the MVSC's interest and desire to step in and work toward the acquisition and restoration of this icon of historic properties.

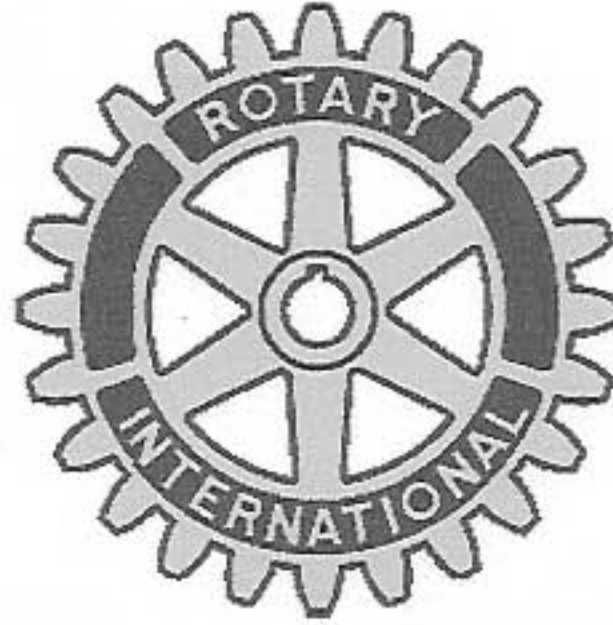
We wish you success in your endeavor and stand ready and willing to offer any support and resources to you that we have available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott J. Lawson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Scott J. Lawson, Secretary  
Plumas County Museum Association, Inc.





ROTARY CLUB OF PORTOLA

Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council  
Alice Berg, President  
PO Box 25  
Clio, CA 96106

Dear Alice,

We greatly appreciate you bringing your presentation to our meeting outlining the mission of the Stewardship Council and specifically your immediate goal of acquiring the White Sulphur Springs Ranch. There is no question that the old hotel is suffering a sad decline and well deserves immediate attention. We are especially interested in the potential of the property for educational uses, what with its significant environmental, cultural, and historic features. I'm sure that many of our members can fondly recall visiting the ranch during its active years and would welcome its restoration.

On behalf of the Board and our membership may I say that we fully support your efforts to acquire and restore the ranch to its rightful place as a cultural and recreational hub in the Mohawk Valley.

For the Rotary Club of Portola,

Ralph D. Taylor, President

**Mohawk Meadows Owners Association**  
**P.O. Box 17, Clio, CA 96106-0017**

February 17, 2009

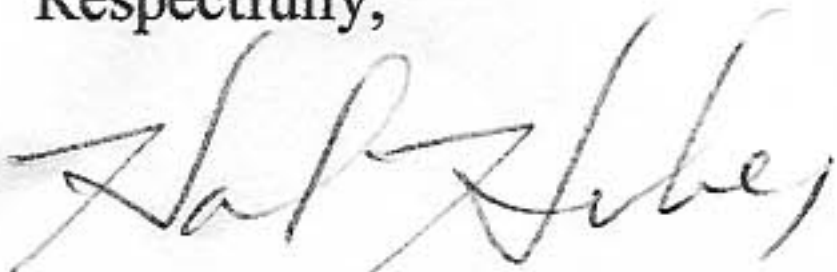
Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council  
Alice Berg, President  
P.O. Box 25  
Clio, CA 96106

Dear Alice,

Bill, of your Board, recently made a presentation to our home owner's Board of Directors outlining the mission of the Stewardship Council to protect and conserve the cultural, environmental, and historical resources in the Mohawk Valley with specific emphasis on your immediate goal to acquire and restore the White Sulphur Springs Ranch property. Those of us who remember the B&B with its spacious grounds and pool are saddened to witness its decline and certainly would welcome the restoration and protection that you envision.

On behalf of the Board and our membership may I say that we fully support your commitment to rescue the ranch property and bring it back to its rightful place as an educational and recreational hub in the Mohawk Valley.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Hal Huber', is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Hal Huber, President  
Mohawk Meadows Owners Association



# WHITEHAWK RANCH HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 176 ♦ CLIO, CA 96106

## Board Members:

Steve Ursenbach, President  
Mike Burke, Co-Vice President  
Tom Hayes CFO  
Mo Tarantino, Co-Vice President  
Earl Zeigler, Secretary

February 9, 2009

Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council  
Alice Berg, President  
PO Box 25  
Clio, CA 96106

The Whitehawk Ranch Home Owners Association is pleased to offer our support in the MVSC's mission to "...conserve and restore the region's physical, cultural, archeological, historical and living resources..." especially your current goal of restoring the old White Sulphur Springs Ranch property. Your presentation outlining the historic significance of the ranch house as well as the extent of the cultural and environmental assets was an eye opener and we applaud your attempt to acquire the property to allow this important venue to be restored and available for our community to enjoy once again.

Many of our 270 members can fondly recall the facility when it was still in operation and so we are pleased to support your quest to put the White Sulphur Springs Ranch back on the map in permanent recognition of its historic significance to the Mohawk Valley and to Plumas County.

For Whitehawk Ranch Homeowners Association,  
Steve Ursenbach, President



# *Valley Ranch Homeowners Association*

P.O. Box 121 ✦ Clio, California 96106 ✦ <http://www.valley-ranch.org>

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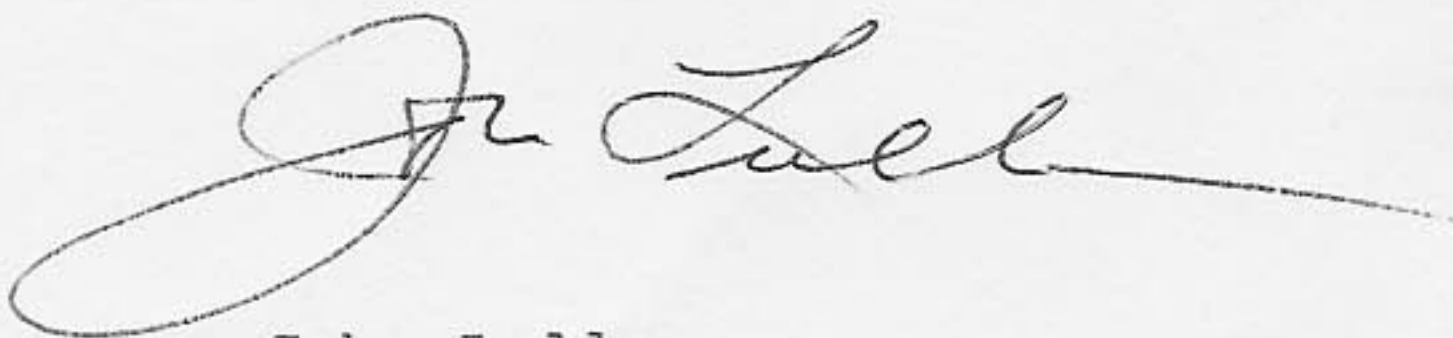
Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council  
Alice Berg, President  
PO Box 25  
Clio, CA 96106

Dear Alice,

Bill Tantau of your Board recently made a presentation to our HOA Board of Directors outlining the mission of the Stewardship Council and specifically your immediate goal of acquiring the White Sulphur Springs Ranch. Other than the obvious state of decline that the ranch house suffers, the extent of the historic, environmental, and cultural significance of the property makes it a target ripe for restoration and protection. I'm sure that many of our residents can recall the ranch when it was in its most recent heyday and will welcome its return to life.

On behalf of the Board and our membership may I say that we fully support your efforts and commitment to rescue the ranch and bring it back to its rightful place as a cultural and recreational hub in the Mohawk Valley.

For the Valley Ranch Home Owners Association,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John Lullo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping underline.

John Lullo

# Plumas County Fire Safe Council



January 21, 2012

To: Alice Berg  
Executive Director  
Mohawk Valley Steward  
P.O. Box 25  
Clio, CA 96106

Dear Alice,

The Plumas County Fire Safe Council (PC FSC) fully supports the Hazardous Fuel Reduction (HFR) planning project on the 40-acre White Sulphur Springs Ranch (WSSR). The project area is within a "Community-at-Risk" and the Wildland Urban Interface as identified in our Community Fire Protection Plan.

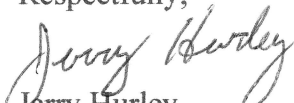
Our Council's mission is, *"To reduce the loss of natural and manmade resources caused by wildfire through Firewise Community programs and pre-fire activities."*

In 2005, the Plumas County Fire Safe Council created and adopted a Community Wildfire Fire Plan (CWPP). The plan was subsequently adopted by the County of Plumas and recognized by CAL FIRE as an approved Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

A key area of focus in the Mitigation Section is, Hazardous Fuel Reduction (HFR). PC FSC is committed to increasing the acres of HFR Countywide, and reducing fuel loadings in and around our communities as the only way to manage intensities of future wildland fires that will threaten them. There is extensive research documenting the effectiveness of hazardous fuel reduction projects that reduce fire intensity and spotting to increase survivability to communities, improve suppression success, provide a safer environment for firefighters and provide positive benefits to our natural resources.

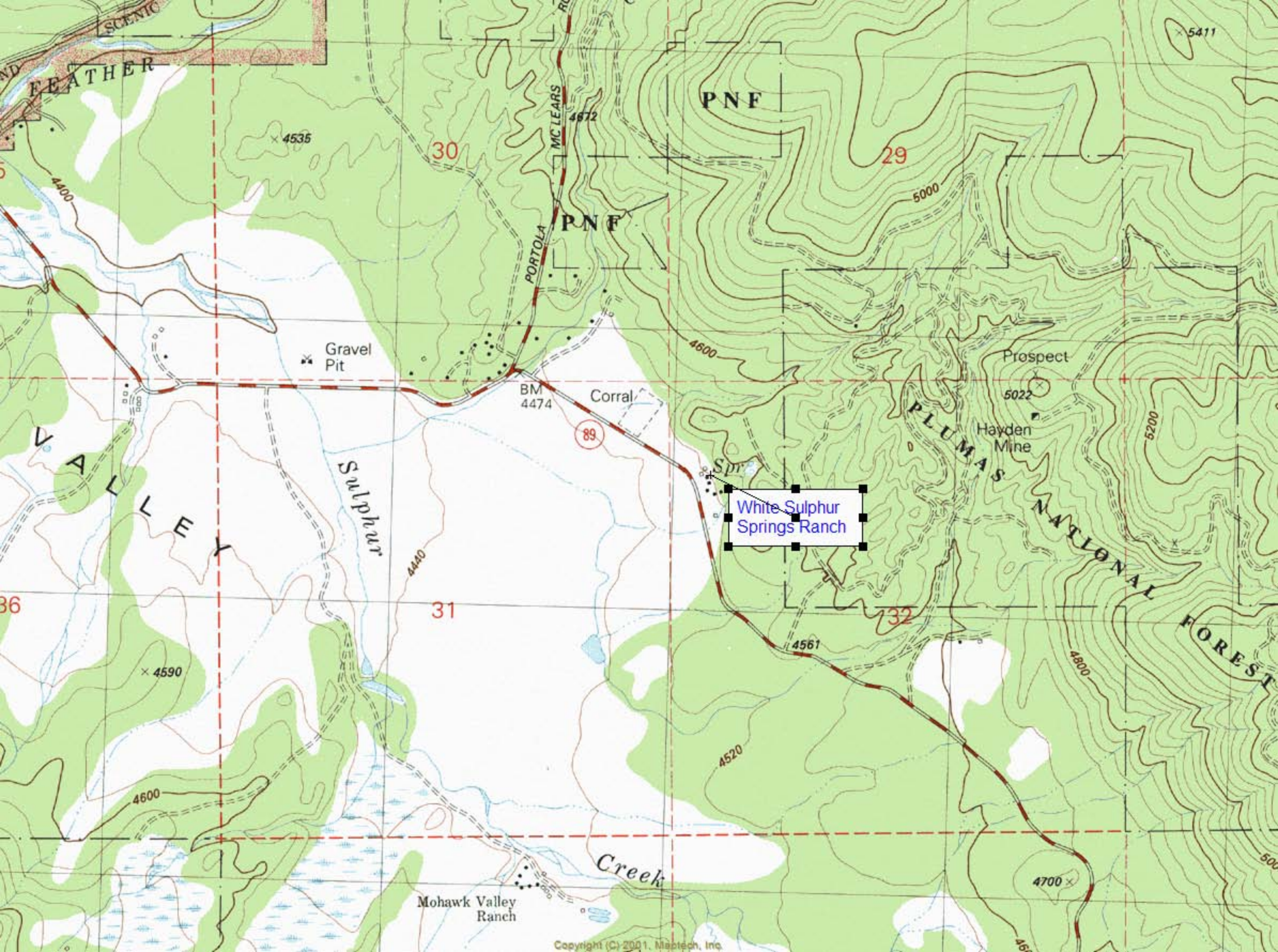
The Plumas County Fire Safe Council fully supports the White Sulphur Springs Ranch (WSSR) Planning Project.

Respectfully,

  
Jerry Hurley  
Council Coordinator

P. O. Box 1225, Quincy, CA 95971  
(530) 283-0829  
[www.plumasfiresafe.org](http://www.plumasfiresafe.org)





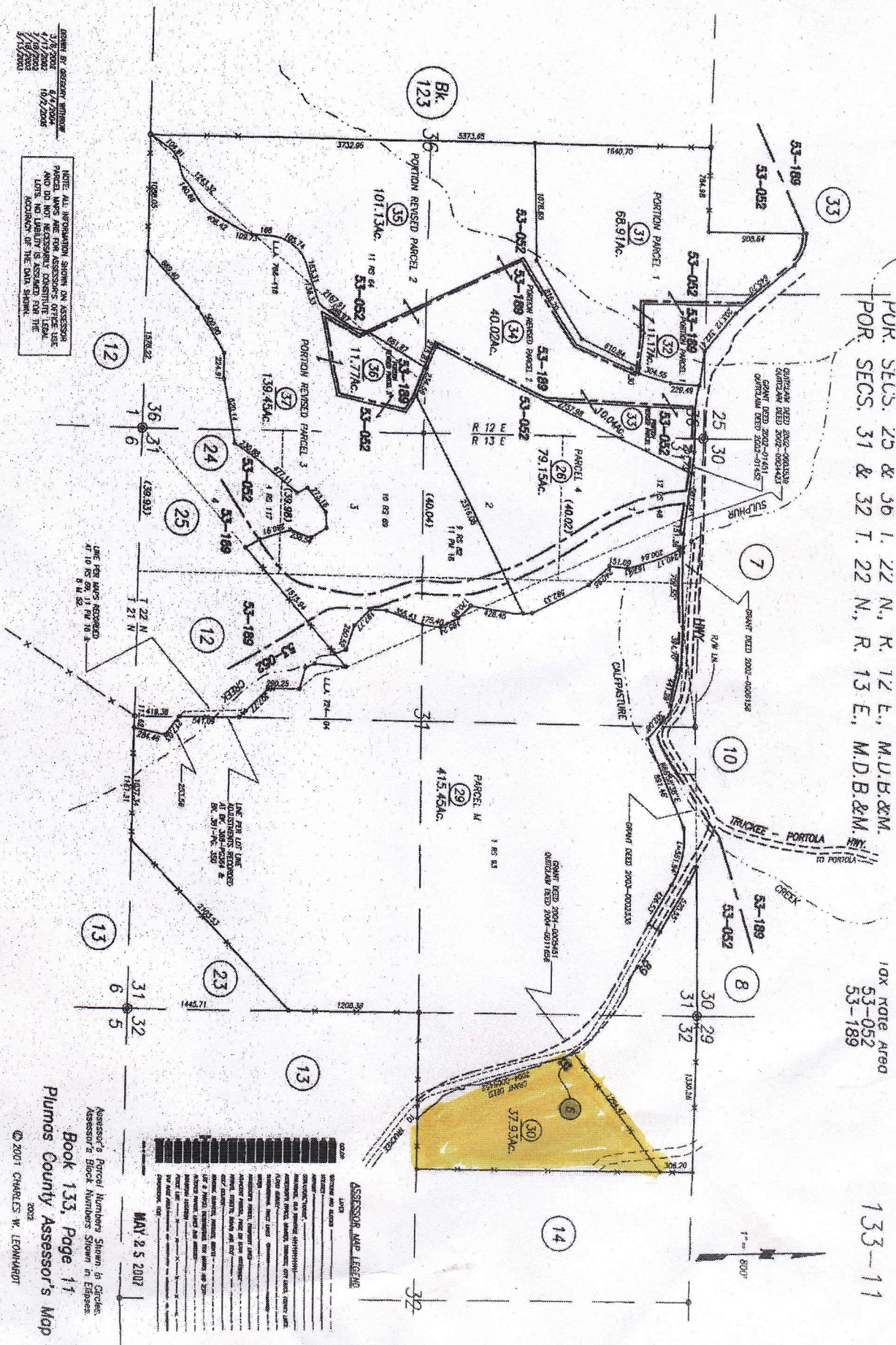


10X Rate Area  
53-052  
53-189

DISCARD BY OFFICER WITHIN

3/6/2002	6/4/2004
4/17/2002	10/2/2005
7/18/2002	
7/18/2002	
3/13/2003	

NOTE: ALL INFORMATION SHOWN ON ASSESSOR PARCEL MAPS ARE FOR ASSESSOR'S OFFICE USE AND DO NOT NECESSARILY CONSTITUTE LEGAL. LOTS, NO LIABILITY IS ASSUMED FOR THE ACCURACY OF THE DATA SHOWN.



Assessor's Parcel Numbers Shown in Circles  
Assessor's Block Numbers Shown in Ellipses

**Book 153, Page 11**

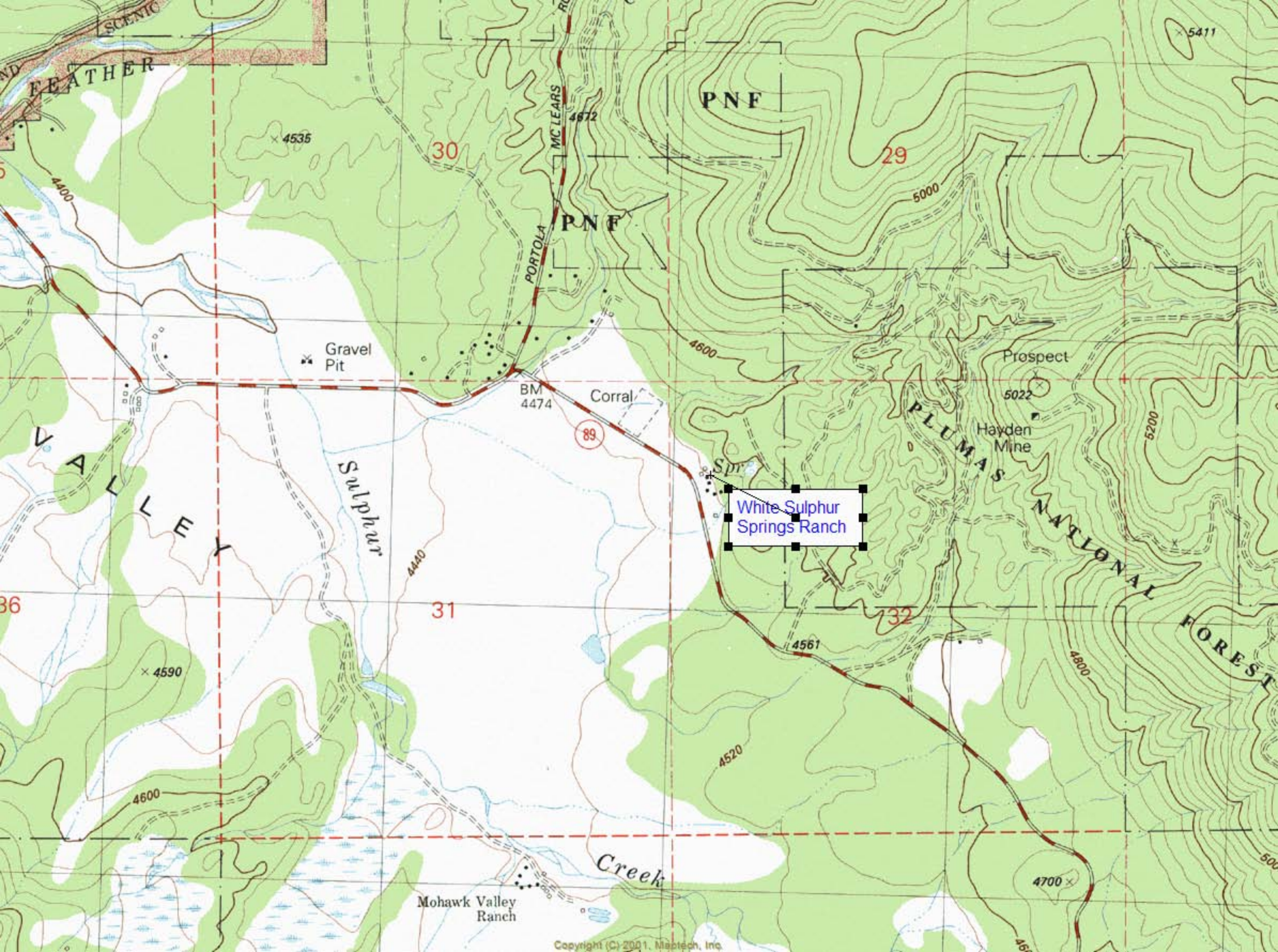
**Plumas County Assessor's Map**

2002

© 2001 CHARLES W. LEONHART

© 2001 CHARLES W. LEONHARDT









RECORDING REQUESTED BY:  
Cal-Sierra Title Company

WHEN RECORDED MAIL TO  
AND SEND TAX STATEMENTS TO:

Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council  
C/O Alice Berg, President  
P. O. Box 25  
Clio, CA 96106

ORDER NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
ESCROW NO. 063-46184  
APN: 133-110-040, -006



2010-0006423

Recorded	REC FEE	16.00
Official Records	TAX	1320.00
County of		
Plumas		
KATHY WILLIAMS		
Clerk-Recorder		

09:35AM 21-Oct-2010 Page 1 of 3

SPACE ABOVE THIS LINE FOR RECORDERS USE  
**GRANT DEED**

THE UNDERSIGNED GRANTOR(S) DECLARE(S)

DOCUMENTARY TRANSFER TAX is: \$1,320.00 **TAX PAID**

(X) computed on full value of property conveyed, or  
(n/a) computed on full value less value of liens or encumbrances remaining at time of sale.

FOR A VALUABLE CONSIDERATION, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged,

Stephen J. Luczo, Trustee of the Stephen J. Luczo Revocable Trust dated January 26, 2001

hereby **GRANTS** to Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council, a California Non-Profit Corporation

the following described real property in an unincorporated area of the County of Plumas, State of California:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION ON EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF.

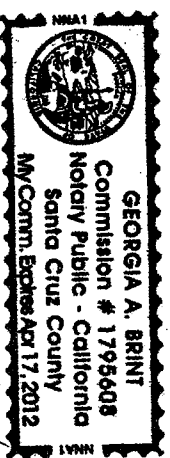
Date: August 31, 2010

  
Stephen J. Luczo  
Trustee

State of California  
County of Santa Cruz

On 9-SEP, 2010 before me Georgia A Brunt  
Notary Public personally appeared Stephen J. Luczo

who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s), whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s) or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument. I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct. WITNESS my hand and official seal.



Signature Georgia A. Brunt

(Seal)

RECORDING REQUESTED BY AND  
WHEN RECORDED MAIL TO:

Local Assistance Engineer  
State of California  
Department of Transportation, District  
Office of Local Assistance  
1657 Riverside Drive  
Redding, Ca. 96001  
Attn: Ian Howat

2010-006424

Recorded REC FEE 181.00  
Official Records  
County of Plumas  
KATHY WILLIAMS  
Clerk-Recorder

(Space above for Recorder's use.)

03:35PM 21-Oct-2010 Page 1 of 58

Applicant must record **ADRC**, including **Attachments A and B**, within 10 days of closing escrow and send original to Caltrans or repay funds.

## Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEMP) Agreement Declaring Restrictive Covenants

EEMP Project Number: EEM-2009 (003)  
Applicant-State Agreement Number: 02-19-003

This Agreement Declaring Restrictive Covenants, hereinafter referred to as "ADRC", is entered into effective this 19th day of July, 2010, by and between the MOHAWK VALLEY STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL, including their assigns and successors in interest with respect to all duties and obligations assumed herein, hereinafter referred to collectively as "APPLICANT," and the State of California, acting by and through the Department of Transportation (Caltrans), hereinafter referred to as "STATE."

WHEREAS, APPLICANT will become the owner of certain real property, hereinafter referred to as "REAL PROPERTY", described in Attachment ADRC-A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference; and

WHEREAS, APPLICANT will acquire this REAL PROPERTY described in Attachment ADRC-A for the purpose of preserving, improving and enhancing the REAL PROPERTY for public use as described in the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEMP) Application Form, hereinafter referred to as "APPLICATION", attached hereto as Attachment ADRC-B and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, STATE has allocated STATE funds to APPLICANT for REAL PROPERTY and improvements thereto as provided in section 164.56 of Streets and Highways Code, (Statutes of 1999, Chapter 739); and

WHEREAS, both APPLICANT and STATE desire and intend to permanently restrict the REAL PROPERTY uses now and in perpetuity to the environmental enhancement purposes, as set forth in the APPLICATION; specifically to restore this property to a roadside recreational site, so that both the State of California and each successive owner of all or part of said REAL PROPERTY shall be benefited by the preservation of REAL PROPERTY for that purpose, herein after referred to as "ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PURPOSES".

RECEIVED BY

JUL 21 2010

DISTRICT 2  
LOCAL ASSISTANCE